



United Community Church

Pastor Ron Burks 2/26/17

Four Facts About Being Filled with the Spirit (Eph 5:18)

1. You cannot fill yourself. God fills you with the Holy Spirit.
2. It is not a state of mind, but a state of being. It means you have surrendered your soul to the Holy Spirit so He can live through you.
3. It is not a one-time experience, but a continual process.
4. It is a command to all Christians.

What Does It Mean to Be Filled with the Holy Spirit?

- You do not have to be a mature Christian to be filled with the Holy Spirit, but the Spirit can only fill you at your point of spiritual maturity.
 - *Spiritual Babes* – infants in Christ, 1 Cor 3:1, Heb 5:11-14
Feelings easily hurt, little knowledge of the Bible, move from church to church when you don't get what you want, spend little time in prayer & the Bible, causes division in the church, things of God are not a priority.
 - *Spiritually Immature* – try to serve God in the flesh, Gal 3:3, Gal 4:6-10
Controlled by sin nature, cause division in the church (gossip, jealousy, fighting), question & refuse to follow leaders, lost your joy, get angry to those who speak the truth, try to win you to their agenda
 - *Spiritually Mature* – walk in the Spirit, Gal 5:22-26
You walk in the Spirit, you are controlled by the Spirit, practice spiritual disciplines (prayer and the Word), seeks and follows God's will, promote unity in the body, speak the Truth in love, disciples others, leads by example, seeks to build God's kingdom
- God cannot and will not impart the deep truths of His Word to spiritually immature Christians because they cannot handle it

Being Filled with the Holy Spirit Means

- You are consistently living and acting like a mature Christian
- You understand the need to be consistent in prayer, the Word, and spending time with the Lord
- You see the seriousness of being a follower of Christ – to think like Christ, to walk like Christ, to serve Christ, to share Christ with others, and to disciple new Christians
- You identify spiritual things going on around you – you know when the Spirit speaks to you, empowers you, & directs you to serve Him
- You walk in the Spirit (practice spiritual disciplines) & you are led by the Spirit
- You yield your life to Christ to do with your life AS HE WILLS